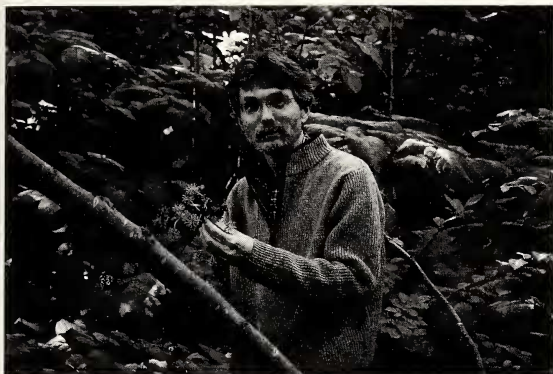


DEDICATION

BRUCE G. BALDWIN



Bruce G. Baldwin with fruiting Elk clover (*Aralia californica*), August 2013. Photograph by Susan Bainbridge.

In this year, the Centennial year of the California Botanical Society, the Council is pleased to dedicate this volume of *Madroño* to Bruce G. Baldwin, Curator of the Jepson Herbarium and Professor of Integrative Biology, University of California, Berkeley.

A native Californian, Bruce grew up in Arroyo Grande, amidst the highly diverse flora of San Luis Obispo County. At a young age, he developed an interest in natural history while on family camping trips and on backpacking trips with friends in California and other parts of the West. He also developed an interest in conservation biology and became a member of the Sierra Club. Biology was his favorite subject in school, especially fieldwork—in elementary school he made an informal plant collection (which he still has).

Bruce earned a B.A. with Honors in 1981 at the University of California, Santa Barbara, where he first learned in detail about the wonders of the California flora. In addition to course work and working as a plant collector for botany labs, he was involved in a National Science Foundation sponsored effort that included a floristic and vegetation survey of the Old Dad-Kelso Mountains region in the Mojave Desert. After his work in the Mojave, Bruce moved to another ecological extreme, Alaska, where he worked for the state geological survey before returning to California for graduate school at UC Davis. There he completed a Master's Degree (1985) and Ph.D. (1989) in Botany under the direction of Donald Kyhos. His dissertation was titled "*Chloroplast DNA Phylogenetics and Biosystematic Studies in Madiinae (Asteraceae)*." After a post-doc at the University of Arizona, Tucson, and a faculty appointment at Duke University (1992–1994), Bruce once again returned to California; this time to the Jepson Herbarium where he has been (working at Jepson's desk) since 1994.

During his academic tenure, Bruce has supervised ten postdoctoral scholars and eleven graduate students and has served on many other Ph.D. and Master's thesis and

exam committees. Students in Bruce's lab (of which there are currently five active students) learn important lessons regarding data collection, data analysis, and publication: be careful, double-check everything, investigate uncertainties, and when you think the work is perfect, it's still not done; good work requires time and persistence. Bruce's emphasis on a well-rounded dissertation project derives from his own distinguished mentors (e.g., Axelrod, Carlquist, Carr, Crawford, Dvorak, Gottlieb, Kyhos, Raven, Stebbins, Strother, Sytsma, and Webster), mentors who positioned him ideally to move plant systematics into the era of molecular studies.

Bruce's research is integrative and brings together traditional biosystematic approaches with cutting edge molecular tools to produce a deep understanding of the ecology, cytology, and morphology of organisms as well as the evolutionary origins of their traits. Bruce's work and that of his students is so varied and wide-reaching, it's hard to imagine what the science of plant systematics or California floristics would be without his continual, persistent, and thoughtful contributions. To date, Bruce has contributed over 115 refereed research publications and edited three books: *The Jepson Desert Manual: vascular plants of southeastern California* (UC Press); *Tarweeds & Silverswords: evolution of the Madiinae* (Missouri Botanical Garden Press); and *The Jepson Manual: vascular plants of California, Second Edition* (UC Press).

He has provided countless hours of service to the Department of Integrative Biology and the Jepson Herbarium as well as to professional societies, academic journals, government agencies, and other academic institutions. He was President (2000–2003) and Past President (2003–2006) of the California Botanical Society and President of the American Society of Plant Taxonomists (2008–2009).

Bruce has been a pioneer in molecular systematics, a field that has transformed evolutionary biology. One of Bruce's early papers, "*The ITS region of nuclear ribosomal DNA: a valuable source of evidence on angiosperm phylogeny*" (Baldwin et al. 1995), is among the most highly cited of his career because it set the stage for so many others to pursue phylogenetic investigations with molecular data. Bruce's innovation didn't stop with ITS, he soon pursued the phylogenetic utility of the external transcribed spacer (ETS), which, together with the ITS region, have become standard regions used in molecular phylogenetic analyses.

Since the early 2000s, Bruce has continued to develop techniques that have allowed for further examination of diversity at ever-refining levels. His work with cryptic species changed the philosophy undertaken by the Jepson Flora Project and has continued to reveal that recognizing fine-scale diversity is critical to understanding diversification and guiding conservation efforts, especially in places like California.

As Convening Editor and contributor of over 40 treatments to the second edition of *The Jepson Manual*, Bruce led five editors, a staff of six, and an author group

of over 300 contributors from around the world to produce a thoroughly revised and updated book and associated resources for the California flora. The project benefited greatly from Bruce's ingenuity and the *Jepson eFlora* (<http://ucjeps.berkeley.edu/IJM.html>) is leading the way as a model in the production and maintenance of modern floras.

Bruce is perhaps at his best when working with a group of students in the field or lab. Many times, we have seen students (undergraduates and workshop participants alike) hang on his every word. Like no other, Bruce can deliver an impromptu mini-lecture full of history and context, interesting facts, and humor. His

endearing spirit and undisputed commitment to conserving the flora of California are attributes that make everyone we've encountered wish they could spend more time with him, learning about and appreciating the natural world.

The world has been enriched with the gifted mind and heart embodied in Bruce Baldwin and for that, we are grateful.

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